# THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

**Friday, the 18th March 1955.**

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

## I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

## STARRED QUESTIONS.

*Municipal water-supply system at Ootacamund.*

* 243 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) when the present Municipal Water-supply system at Ootacamund was installed;

(b) the population of Ootacamund the original scheme was designed to serve;

(c) its present population; and

(d) what arrangements have been or are proposed to be made to improve the water-supply in the town to suit modern needs?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) In the year 1897, Sir.

" (b) 14,900.

" (c) 41,414 (as per 1951 census).

" (d) The field work for the investigation of the comprehensive improvements has now been completed and the report is being prepared by the Sanitary Engineer."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have included the improvement of the water-supply system in this town for aid under the Five-Year Plan? '

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The investigation report is under scrutiny. The proposed improvements will be taken up early."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that visitors and tourists are put to great hardship on account of water shortage in the hotels at Ootacamund, and would the Government advise the Sanitary Engineer to the Government to take up this matter with the municipality to see that some make-shift arrangement is made for ensuring adequate water-supply during the ensuing season in Ootacamund? "

THE HON. SRI A. B, SHETTY :—" I shall have the suggestion of the hon. Member considered."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will the Hon. Minister please tell us whether the Government have included Ootacamund (Queen of the Hill stations) as a tourist centre, and whether they have made any representations to the Union Government to develop this hill station as a first-class tourist centre? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will the Government consider the possibility of holding a session of our Legislature in Ootacamund just to keep this Queen of Hills as attractive as in the olden days? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I may tell the hon. Member that this supplementary question has nothing to do with the main question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, are the Government aware that the water-supply system in many other municipatities also is not satisfactory, especially at Kodaikanal, which is another health centre? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It may be so, Sir. I know the hon. Member has a permanent residence there, and therefore he must be well acquainted with the needs of the place."

*Purchase of radium needles for the Barnard Institute of Radiology.*

* 244 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether purchase of radium needles for the Barnard Institute of Radiology was made in 1947;

(*b*) if so, the quantity so purchased and its value;

(*c*) whether any payment was made to the supplier and if so, on whose authority the payment was made;

(*d*) whether the consignor sent any certificate of purity for the needles supplied; and if so, when;

(*e*) whether it was brought to the notice of the authorities that the needles supplied were sub-standard and if so, who brought to light the deficiency in the quality of the needles;

(*f*) whether any enquiry was held as to the suitability of the radium so purchased;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that as a result of enquiries, the Government decided to recover any amount from the Director, Barnard Institute of Radiology and if so, the amount proposed to be recovered from him; and